

Application No. 09/904,570
Reply dated August 12, 2003
Reply to Office Action of May 21, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-8 are now pending and under examination. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 7. No new matter has been added.

Applicant is grateful for the Examiner's suggested claim amendments to place the application in condition for allowance. Applicant has adopted the Examiner's suggested claim amendments.

Specifically, Applicant has amended claim 7 as suggested by the Examiner. As indicated by the Examiner, the amendment overcomes the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

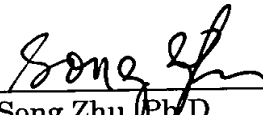
Applicant has also amended claim 1 as suggested by the Examiner. As indicated by the Examiner, the amendment overcomes the rejection of claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, and the rejection of claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) or under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

In light of the foregoing remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and early passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested. If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (CAM #:037141.50178US).

Respectfully submitted,

August 12, 2003



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